

LEGISLATIVE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION	
EXHIBIT NO.	7
DATE:	3-8-2011
BILL NO.	HB 216

House Bill 216

Testimony

Steve York, Assistant Superintendent

Montana Office of Public Instruction

61-5-105. Who may not be licensed. The department may not issue a license under this chapter to a person:

(1) who is under 16 years of age unless:

(a) the person is at least 15 years of age and has passed a driver's education course approved by the department and the superintendent of public instruction; or

(b) the person is at least 13 years of age and, because of individual hardship, to be determined by the department, needs a restricted license;

The Office of Public Instruction has three distinct concerns:

1) The bill weakens the Graduated Driver's License law which is designed to keep teens and other users safe on the roadways of Montana.

2) The licensing process already meets the needs of families who can demonstrate a hardship.

3) HB 216 may have unintended consequences and too large of a reach.